

Subject: Parish Update: February 7, 2022

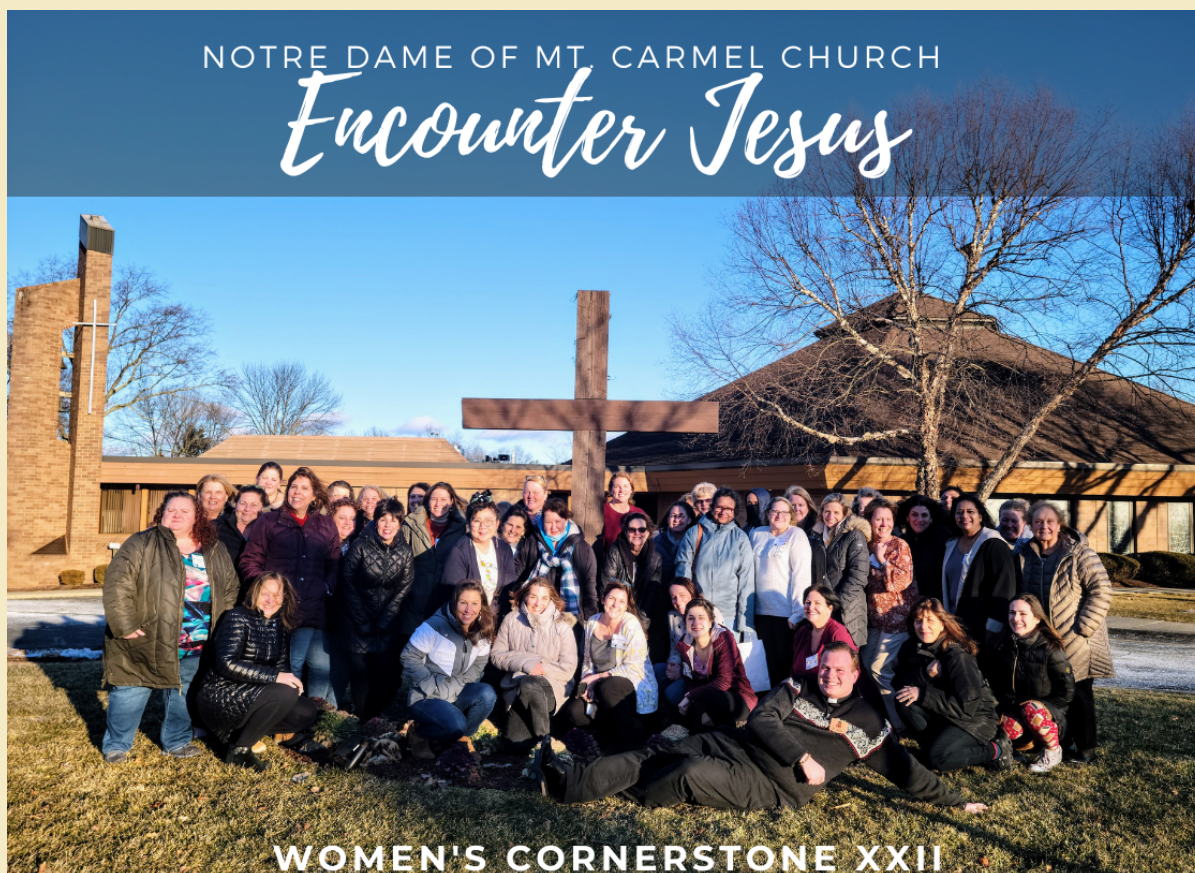
Date: Monday, February 7, 2022 at 7:02:49 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church

To: Cristina Folan



Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church



On February 4 & 5, 30 team members and 21 candidates spent 24 hours together at the Women's Cornerstone XXII retreat. The retreat was a fruitful experience with team members reflecting inspiring examples of faith-filled hearts on mission, radical hospitality, raising of leadership, teamwork, service, and generosity of time, talent, and treasure. The candidates presented themselves with open hearts and responded to Christ's invitation to encounter Him through this experience.



Women's Cornerstone XXII co-leader Beth Letizia shared, *"This being my sixth year as a member of the Women's Cornerstone ministry; I'm constantly amazed how each retreat gets even better than the last. A combination of thoughtful planning, laughter, discipleship, and friendship was the recipe for success in this year's retreat. We witnessed tired souls arrive on Friday evening who were lighted and energized by Saturday evening; truly amazing."*





Click [HERE](#) to view more pictures from the WC XXII retreat!

What some of the candidates, now Cornerstone sisters, had to say:

"Absolutely amazing! Very welcoming and made me feel very comfortable."

"I honestly did not have any expectations, so this retreat greatly exceeded my expectations."

*"I'm forever grateful and appreciate
These 24 hours of LOVE
The strength and devotion among you
Was truly sent from above*

*The Lord is our healer and savior
As I have witnessed this today
From all your touching stories
He has shown you all the way*

*"The retreat helped me to understand
the strength God gives each one of us."*

*"The cornerstone experience met all of
my expectations. I am feeling blessed
and in awe of all the women who shared
their stories."*

*"The retreat was thought-provoking,
meaningful, fun, and fulfilling!"*

*I'll take this experience with me
And hold it deeply in my heart
It's wonderful to feel the LOVE
I felt it from the start...*

*I THANK YOU ALL for your
MERCY
JOY
PEACE
LOVE
FAITH*

God Bless and keep you all..."

Love, Debbi Riccardello

Message from Fr. Paddy

Dear Parish Family,

Notre Dame's worship of God each Sunday is made all the more beautiful and prayerful because of the gift of our Music Ministry. We are blessed here at Notre Dame to share a tradition of music and singing that is admired by other parishes in the diocese of Paterson.

Seeking a new Music Director who will honor this treasured legacy, lift our liturgies through music and guide our choirs and congregation in song is indeed a challenging undertaking. To ensure we make the appropriate new hire, I have formed a team of parishioners that I believe will succeed in that quest.

It comprises four (4) lay members, with Fr. Alex and myself completing the team.

- *Mike Connor (Parish at large)*
- *Pat Polizzano (Choir)*
- *Diane Byrne (Faith Formation)*
- *Lois Castano (Pastoral Musician)*
- *Fr. Alex and myself*

This week we will post the position on the National Pastoral Musicians platform (NPM.org), the Paterson Diocese, and the Archdiocese of Newark.

May this time of transition give way to new hope, challenge, and opportunity to give God the praise due to Him as our Lord of Life. I call upon the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide us in the mission we share as disciples of Jesus.

*In Christ,
Fr. Paddy*

Thank you for your support of Our Parish Mission!

All that takes place at ND and beyond through the works of our ministries is made possible through the generous giving of our parish community.



If you are not participating in **Regular Offertory Giving**, we invite you to support our mission. Click [HERE](#) to find out more and to sign up today.

Journey through one of our

Lenten Discipleship Groups

Deepen your faith, grow closer to Christ, and connect with others as you follow a path of purposeful discipleship.

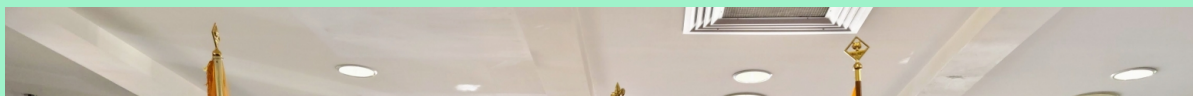
Thanks to great leaders on mission, **we have a menu of 17 Discipleship Groups** leading us in small group faith-sharing. There are many different themes and meeting dates and in-person and virtual options. Space is limited, so **please click below to register** as soon as possible!

Our Lenten journey begins Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022



Scouts Sunday at Notre Dame

This past Sunday, at the Family Mass, we were blessed to host and honor our Boy and Girl Scouts for Scout Sunday. **Lucas Sapio, Bobby Krimmel, Michael and Giovanni Chirichiello** were presented with special religious emblems (light of Christ and Parvuli Dei), signifying their desire and accomplishments in furthering their duty and service to God. Father Alex presented them with their religious knots, which can be displayed on their uniforms throughout their Boy Scouts careers.





"Every scout has different requirements each year to complete their "Duty to God." The Scout Law says that a "Scout is Reverent," and the Scouts of all ages promise to do their "Duty to God." These values strengthen youth character in their family, community, and faith. The basic principles of Cub Scouting align perfectly with the teachings of our religious faith as is evident in our Scout oath and Scout law."





Click [HERE](#) to view more pictures from our Family Mass and celebration of Scouts Sunday.

"As the new Cubmaster of Pack 40, we just wanted to thank Father Alex for making the Scouts feel so special by integrating them in special roles throughout the Mass. We had more in attendance than ever before; we were also excited to have Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scout Brownies! It was great to see them becoming such great leaders." Flo Chirichiello

On Mission at the Family Mass: Join Our Team!



We seek to expand our **Children's Liturgy Team**, which plans the engaging themes and activities surrounding our Family Mass. There will be a meeting on **Wednesday, February 16 at 7:30 pm in Room 201**. Please join us to find out how your faith and gifts can impact the lives of our young families!

Contact Diane Byrne, Elementary Faith Formation Coordinator, at dbyrne@ndcarmel.com.

An Experience in Adoration

by Laura Balogh, Family Faith Formation Director



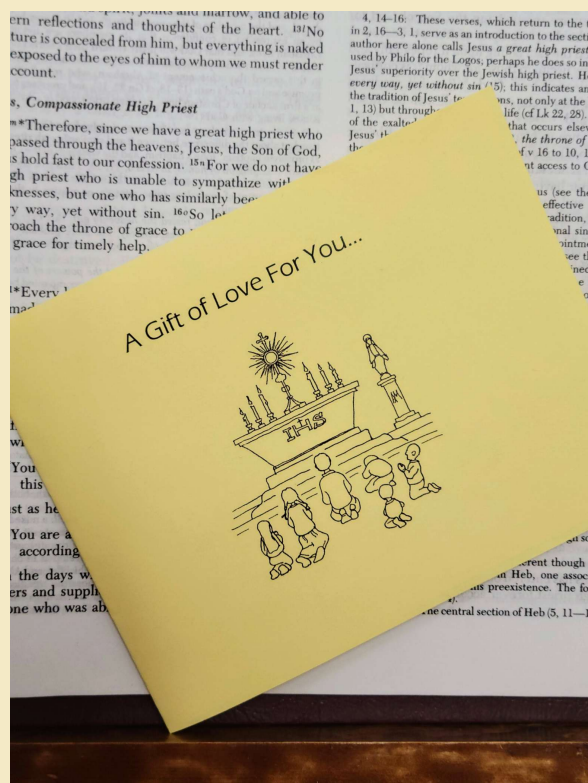
"The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time that you will spend on earth. Each moment that you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with Him and make your soul everlastingly more glorious and beautiful in heaven, and will help bring about everlasting peace on earth." - St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Pope Francis launched a yearlong celebration of the Year of the Eucharist in 2022 to encourage the faithful to develop a greater love and appreciation of the Eucharist. Unfortunately, most self-described Catholics don't believe in this core teaching. Nearly seven in ten Catholics (69%) say they believe that during Catholic Mass, the bread and wine used in Communion "are symbols of the body and blood of Jesus Christ."

Therefore, this past Tuesday & Wednesday, February 1 & 2, the Middle School EDGE Faith Formation sessions focused on this vital tenet of the faith, with a particular emphasis on the meaning of the True Presence. The evenings ended in the Chapel, with time spent in Jesus' presence in Eucharistic Adoration.

Following the exposition of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament by Fr. Paddy and Fr. Alex and the blessing with incense, the participants were led through a brief period of guided prayer especially geared for children, along with music. They were invited to think of a personal prayer intention. Everyone received a small prayer card that could be addressed and given to the special person for whom they prayed. The children were then invited to depart the chapel in silence to preserve the feeling of peace they received from this special time with Jesus.

"I had to pass on some compliments. While I thought the Adoration service was lovely, I was unsure what my son would think. I was pleasantly surprised that he liked it a lot! He said he liked the guidance because he didn't quite get it



"I just wanted to let you know that Ryan really enjoyed Adoration on Wednesday. He came home and shared how much he enjoyed the experience and is looking forward to the next time. Thanks!" --Jackie Heiart

at first -and it was helpful to verbalize visuals, but now that he understands it, he would prefer it to be less guided when he does it again. He preferred the quiet prayer. I view such commentary as an absolute win - so I thought I would share."

"It was special to end our session with Adoration. Jacob said he felt a calm come over him, and as a family, John, Jacob, and I, we felt connected in a very special way and wished Liam was with us as well." --Margey Dwyre-Daily

We intend to offer more opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration for the children to allow them to grow and develop in their prayer life and draw closer to Jesus. We invite you to experience Adoration yourselves with your entire family, especially during the upcoming Lenten season.



HAPPENING...

**This week's Mass
& Lamp Intentions**

**Parishioner
Announcements**



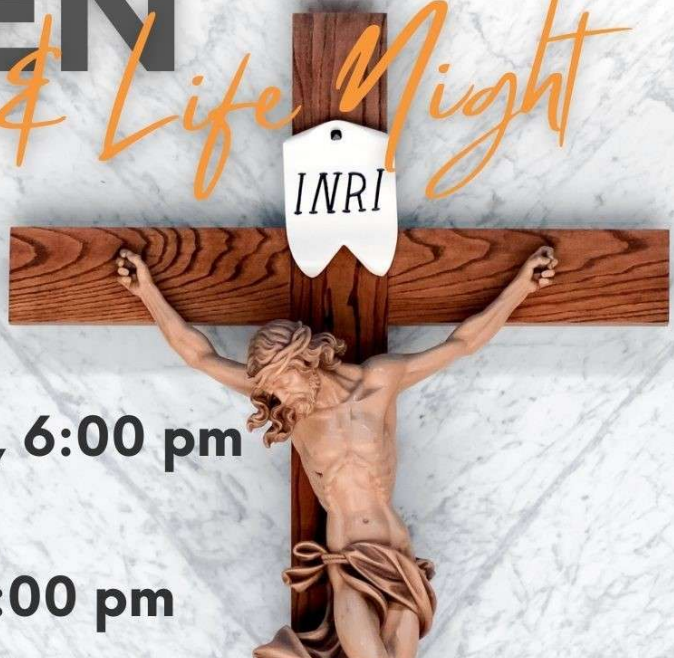
For many years we held a "Renewal of Wedding Vows" once a year at the 5 PM Vigil Mass closest to St. Valentine's day. We are now called to celebrate a **Blessing of Married Couples** in the updated **Order of Matrimony**.

Blessing of Married Couples

**February 12 & 13, 2022
at all Weekend Masses**

"It is important to note that, unlike the previous ritual, the new ritual does not allow for an explicit reiteration of promises or vows. Since the consent is permanent by design and does not bear repeating, the renewal of commitment takes place in silence or employs a prayer of thanksgiving for blessings and a prayer for God's help in remaining faithful to the promises already made."

SS
LIFE TEEN
Youth Mass & Life Night



Youth Mass, Sundays, 6:00 pm

All are welcome!

Food & Fellowship, 7:00 pm

Following Mass, high school teens are invited to share a meal, grow closer in existing friendships, and make new ones!

Life Night, 7:30 -8:30 pm

Life Nights are the heart of our Youth Ministry. Here the teens are drawn closer in their relationship with Jesus and are challenged to grow and witness a renewed commitment to faith, in service to others.



Married Couples: Take the Oneness Journey!

marriage oneness



Regardless of how long you have been married, join us as we learn and discuss practical guidance in seven critical areas of marriage: Communication, Money, Intimacy, Family and Friends, Conflict, Resolution, Spiritual Beliefs, and Roles and Responsibilities. **The 8-session series will be held Fridays, February 18 - March 8, 2022, 7:00-9:30 pm in Room 201. Onsite babysitting will be available! Click [HERE](#) to register today!**

Back by
Popular
Demand

NOT SO *The Newlywed Game*

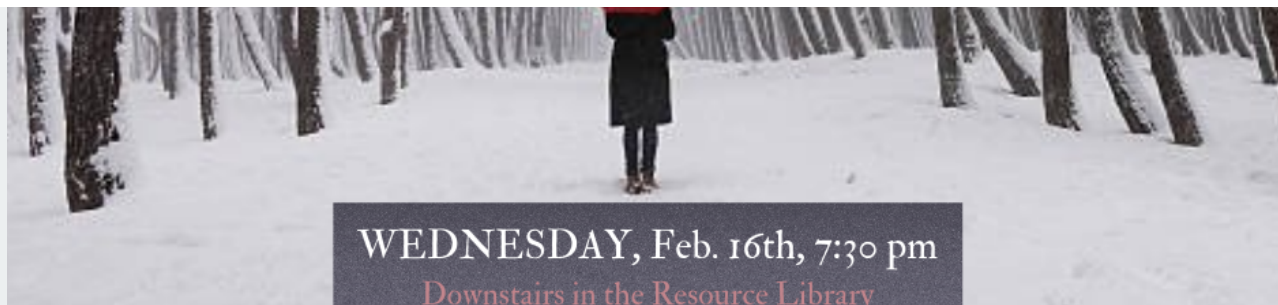
Saturday, February 12th 6:15- 9:00 pm - Parish Hall

On-site Childcare Provided - See our website for registration

Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church
75 Ridgedale Ave., Cedar Knolls, NJ | www.ndcarmel.com

Women's Guided Meditation

*Listen, find peace,
and get in touch with God within...*

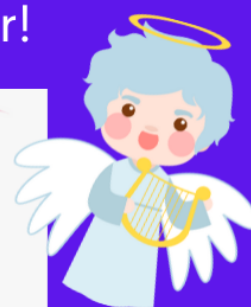


WEDNESDAY, Feb. 16th, 7:30 pm

Downstairs in the Resource Library

The Cherubs are back!

And we are calling children 3-5 years old
to be a part of this special choir!



Come to a rehearsal

Thursday, Feb. 17th at 5:30 pm in our Parish Hall.

The Cherubs will sing a prelude song at the
9:30 am Family Mass on Sunday, Feb. 20th.

Let us know your Cherub(s) will be joining us!

RSVP: Nicole Payne at nicole.danielle313@gmail.com

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Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications

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